

RESOLUTION NO. 2 of FY24

Honoring

Dr. Devin Stephenson

President, Northwest Florida State College

January 1, 2017 – July 5, 2024

WHEREAS, DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON served as president of Northwest Florida State College from January 1, 2017, through July 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON has provided transformative leadership for College educational initiatives, which includes starting many programs such as Aviation, Culinary, and expanded health sciences programs, leading the College to seven consecutive semesters of enrollment growth beginning in Summer 2022, establishing the Veterans and Military Success Center, and expanding Collegiate High School to set it on a path to surpass 500 students enrolled by Academic Year 2025-2026;

WHEREAS, DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON has led the College to awards of landmark grants, such as a Title III grant for the first time in College history, a Triumph Gulf Coast grant for Enhanced Pathways in Nursing Education that provided critical capital investment to meet a need in Florida and the College's service area, the Walton Works Triumph Gulf Coast grant, a third Triumph Gulf Coast grant investing in the Aviation Center of Excellence in Crestview, and two Florida Job Growth Grants, which, with all other grant awards since Fiscal Year 2019 total more than \$73 million;

WHEREAS, during DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON's presidency, Raider Athletics has won three more national championships across Women's Basketball and Men's Basketball, made College history by sending all four sports (Women's Basketball, Men's Basketball, Baseball, and Softball) to their national championship tournaments in 2024, won several Panhandle Conference Championships and FCSAA Region VIII Championships, and expanded Raider Athletics to include E-Sports;

WHEREAS, DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON has improved and expanded College campuses and centers, including opening the Aviation Center of Excellence, leading the Raider Village initiative to bring student housing on-campus, and spearheading the expansion of the South Walton Center, which are a few examples among more than \$100 million in construction projects which have occurred at College locations;

WHEREAS, DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON has overseen the increase of Foundation net assets to more than \$65 million, which represents greater than forty percent growth compared to when he began as President; and

WHEREAS, DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON has enhanced the reputation of the College as an educational institution and as an active participant in both the Okaloosa and Walton County communities, unflaggingly and enthusiastically supporting the work of faculty, staff, and the College's community partners;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by The District Board of Trustees of Northwest Florida State College to thank DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON for his years of service and encourage him to remain a close friend of the College; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED by The District Board of Trustees of Northwest Florida State College to award DR. DEVIN STEPHENSON the title of PRESIDENT EMERITUS.

Adopted at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on the 18th day of June 2024.

The District Board of Trustees
Northwest Florida State College

Attest:

Maj. Gen. Thomas "Rudy" Wright, USAF Ret.
Vice Chair, The District Board of Trustees
Northwest Florida State College

Ms. Lori Kelley
Chair, The District Board of Trustees
Northwest Florida State College